Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, In each of America's past wars our prisoners of war have represented a special sacrifice. On them has fallen an added burden of loneliness, trauma, and hardship. Their burden becomes double when there is inhumane treatment by the enemy in violation of common human compassion, ethical standards, and international obligations; and,

WHEREAS, On June 12, 1981, President Reagan signed into law a proclamation designating July 17, 1981, as "National P.O.W.-M.I.A. Recognition Day"; and,

WHEREAS, As we now enjoy the blessings of peace, it is appropriate that all South Dakotans recognize the special debt owed those Americans held prisoner during wartime. It also is appropriate that we remember the unresolved casualties of war, our soldiers who are missing. The pain and bitterness of war endures for the families, relatives and friends of those whose fate is unknown. Our Nation will continue to seek answers to the questions that remain about their fate:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Friday, July 17, 1981, 1981, as

P.O.W.-M.I.A. RECOGNITION DAY

in South Dakota, as a day dedicated both to all former American prisoners of war as well as those still missing and to their families. I call on all South Dakotans to join on this occasion in honoring those who made the special sacrifice of being captive in war, and their loved ones and I call on State and local officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of July, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-One

WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE